

Your request to conduct research in DoDEA, “The Impact of Literacy Support Services on Reading Achievement Gains” has been reviewed by DoDEA HQ and Pacific Area office. While we recognize the importance of the topic, we are unable to give approval for you to conduct your research in DoDEA as currently proposed.

Reviewers expressed two overall methodological and interpretive concerns. First, the proposed sample is not sufficient either in size or representativeness to validly answer the research questions, or to adequately inform DoDEA of the benefits of the LSS program. Second, reviewers expressed concern that the proposed methodology does not address known differences between students receiving LSS services and those not receiving such services. Students are typically referred for READ180 or other support services because they have demonstrated difficulties learning in more traditional environments, and to base any changes solely on the receipt of services has the potential to lead to erroneous conclusions.

We would like to encourage you to discuss these concerns with your mentor or advisor and would welcome a revised proposal.

Please contact me via email or phone at (703) 588-3175 if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Sandra D. Embler, Ph.D.  
Chief, Research and Evaluation